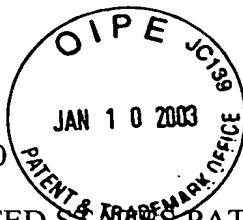


DOCKET NO.: 195942US0



RECEIVED
JAN 15 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :

HIROSHI IZUI, ET AL. :

EXAMINER: DAVIS, K. F.

SERIAL NO: 09/641,892 :

FILED: AUGUST 18, 2000 :

GROUP ART UNIT: 1636

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-
GLUTAMIC ACID BY
FERMENTATION ACCOMPANIED
BY PRECIPITATION :

#21/E
Huta
1-21-03

AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated September 13, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as shown in the attached marked-up copy to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An isolated microorganism which can metabolize a carbon source at a specific pH in a liquid medium containing the carbon source and L-glutamic acid at a saturation concentration, and has the ability to accumulate L-glutamic acid in an amount exceeding the amount corresponding to the saturation concentration in the liquid medium at the specific pH.
2. (Amended) The isolated microorganism according to claim 1, which can grow in the liquid medium.

01/13/2003 ANABI1 00000030 09641892

01 FC:1202

72.00 OP